memorable experience to all the tourists and visitors to Agra in general and Taj Mahal in particular and to create and provide facilities and infrastructure of of the highest order. Ministry of Tourism had commissioned HUDCO to prepare a Project report and HUDCO's project proposal of Rs. 39.34 crore was submitted to the State Government for detailed examination. The State Government has recommended the same for approval and in the first phase, the proposal for the "Development of East Gate Entry to Taj Mahal" for Rs. 767.00 lakh has already been sanctioned during the year 2005-06.

Connectivity of tourist destinations in KeraSa

160. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal for a project aiming to improve connectivity between the four prime tourist destinations, Kovalam, Kumarakom, Munnar and Bekal in the State seeking financial assistance from the Centre; and

(b) if so, the details of the project and what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Joint Project of Pancheswar Yojna in Uttaranchal

†161. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether work is going on, on the joint project of Pancheswar Yojna under survey in Uttaranchal; and

(b) if so, the percentage of work completed in the Indian territory relating to joint project of Pancheswar Yojna under survey and the percentage of work completed in the Nepal territory?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourism is undetaken primarily by the State Governments/UT Administration. The Ministry of Tourism; Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/UT

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.